

INFORMATION REPORT INFORMATION REPORT

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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- After 1948, in order to foster enthusiasm for sport in the armed forces, all the larger military units had to form sport clubs which were given names like Blask, Strela, etc. In these clubs were registered sportsmen who were doing their compulsory military service. They received time off for their sport training. These sport clubs are part of the Dum Armady (Army House) in each garrison. The central organization is Ustredni Dum Armady (UDA-Central Army House) in Prague.
- In about 1950 the tank units formed a so-called "Tankista" which is their representative sport unit. This unit is not subordinate to the UDA, but is directly under the command of the tank corps HQ.
- The Air Force followed by a similar formation of its own sport unit called "Kridla Vlasti" and stationed it at Olomouc. This unit is subordinate to the Air Force HQ.
- Another military sport unit was formed by the security forces (SNB, PS, and VS). This unit is called "Ruda Hvezda."
- All recognized sportsmen are assigned to these sport units after their induction into the army. The length of service is supposed to be 24 months. After 14 days of basic drill the recruits are directed to their respective platoons, e.g., football, ice hockey, volley ball or callisthenics and gymnastics, where most of their time is spent on sport training. They receive the normal military pay according to their rank plus 350 crowns extra per month as a so-called "representation allowance". When on a trip, they receive an additional 29 crowns per diem which is intended to cover meals.
- After seven months of service they are offered permanent commissions starting with the rank of lieutenant; an outstanding player may even start with the rank of captain. If they accept, their pay is then the normal monthly pay of the equivalent rank in other services plus a "functional" supplement of 75 percent of the basic pay after tax deductions, plus a "representation allowance" of 800 crowns monthly. Thus, the total pay for a lieutenant is about 2,500 crowns monthly. When taking part in sport events they receive an additional 45 crowns per diem for food.

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- 2 -

7. If they refuse the commission, they are offered long-term contracts as civilian employees of the military department. As such they receive all the privileges of officers but their total pay is about 15 percent less. However, not many sportsmen like to accept either the commission or the contract as they feel that there is too much control in the military service and that their friends might look at them as "drones".
8. The members of military sport units are subject to political schooling as follows: Every weekday morning they receive 15 minutes of so-called "aktuality" (current events), when the political officer reads the newspaper and adds a few comments of his own. Every Tuesday and Friday from 2 to 5 p.m. they are given a political indoctrination lecture by the political officer. The program consists of a 30-minute reading from a book on Marxism or some similar subject, followed by a 30-minute analysis by the political officer. Then follows a 30-minute talk by one of the class on a political subject he has studied, and the rest of the time is used for discussion and so-called "criticism".
9. The Air Force sport unit "Kridla Vlasti" is organized as follows: Lt. Col. Vratislav Bajer is the officer responsible for sport activities at the Air Force Hq. in Prague. Capt. Vladimir Machacek is the commanding officer of the unit in Olomouc. Capt. Cejkal (fnu), a graduate of Haken's Political School, is a deputy commanding officer of the unit. 1st Lt. Pitner (fnu) is the officer in charge of training. The unit has four training platoons: soccer, ice hockey, volley ball, and callisthenics and gymnastics.

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